



Request for City Council Committee Action

Date: February 11, 2003

To: Zoning and Planning Committee

Referral to: Ways and Means Committee

Subject:

- **Requesting authority to accept a grant for \$66,000 awarded by the State of Minnesota Office of Environmental Assistance to develop, adopt, and implement the Minneapolis Sustainability Plan**
- **Requesting the adoption of a resolution that initiates the development of the "Minneapolis Sustainability Plan," integration of the Sustainability Plan into the *Minneapolis Plan*, and use of the Sustainability Plan to guide City investment decisions.**

Recommendation

We respectfully request that your Committee authorize the proper city officials to accept a grant award of \$66,000.00 from the State of Minnesota Office of Environmental Assistance for development, adoption, and implementation of a Sustainability Plan for the City of Minneapolis; further, we request that activities performed shall be payable from State Grants fund 0600-835-8396; further, that the 2003 Appropriation Resolution be amended by increasing the appropriation for the Department of Regulatory Services in State Grants fund 0600-835-8396 by \$66,000.00 and increasing revenue source 0600-835-8396-3215 by \$66,000.00.

We respectfully request that your Committee approve the attached resolution that initiates the development of the "Minneapolis Sustainability Plan," integration of the Sustainability Plan into the *Minneapolis Plan*, and use of the Sustainability Plan to guide City investment decisions.

Prepared or Submitted by: Bill Anderson

Approved by:

John Bergquist, Assistant City Coordinator

John Moir, City Coordinator

Presenters in Committee: Michael Orange, Bill Anderson

Financial Impact (Check those that apply)

- ☐ No financial impact (If checked, go directly to Background/Supporting Information)
- ☐ Action requires an appropriation increase to the Capital Budget
- ☒ Action requires an appropriation increase to the Operating Budget
- ☒ Action provides increased revenue for appropriation increase
- ☐ Action requires use of contingency or reserves
- ☒ Other financial impact (Explain): Action is within grant budget
- ☐ Request provided to the Budget Office when provided to the Committee Coordinator

Background/Supporting Information

Dear Council Members:

In January 2003, the State of Minnesota Office of Environmental Assistance announced a grant award of \$66,000.00 to the City of Minneapolis Citizen's Advisory Committee (CEAC) to develop, adopt, and implement a comprehensive, long-term Sustainability Plan. The grant will enable the City to initiate and coordinate participation of citizens, neighborhoods, and environmental groups in development of Phase 1 of the City's Sustainability Plan. We are requesting that the appropriate officials be authorized to accept this award. The City will serve as the fiscal agent for CEAC under the direction of Regulatory Services.

The attachment includes the resolution that will direct the appropriate City staff to complete the Minneapolis Sustainability Plan.

Attachment: Minneapolis Sustainability Plan resolution

RESOLUTION of the CITY OF MINNEAPOLIS

By: _____

Initiating the development of the “Minneapolis Sustainability Plan,” integration of the Plan into the *Minneapolis Plan*, and use of the Plan to guide City investment decisions.

Whereas, the environment has long been a priority for Minneapolis residents; and

Whereas, the City’s chief organizations since 1994 that are on the forefront of our environmental efforts include the Environmental Coordinating Team (ECT) and its citizen counterpart, the Citizens Environmental Advisory Committee (CEAC); and

Whereas, Minneapolis has been a key participant in the statewide dialogue over sustainability since the 1990’s; and has been implementing “Smart Growth” land use and transportation policies for many years through its Zoning Code and its Comprehensive Plan, the *Minneapolis Plan*; and

Whereas, Minneapolis has protected the City’s invaluable water resources through a variety of initiatives including the Clean Water Partnership, its Stormwater Management Ordinance, capital investments related to stormwater management and safe drinking water, and its commitment to the City’s watershed management organizations; and

Whereas, Minneapolis has been a consistent advocate for the Metro Emissions Reduction Project; for the conversion of coal plants to cleaner fuels; and for the exploration of opportunities for “green” power, distributed generation, and expansions to district energy and cogeneration; and

Whereas, Minneapolis has worked hard to maximize energy efficiency in over 120 public buildings, and to promote the same for private buildings through our policies, plans, and ordinances; and

Whereas, Minneapolis has one of the most successful brownfield reclamation programs in the country, which has restored hundreds of acres of polluted land to productive uses; and

Whereas, Minneapolis is committed to maintaining and improving our nationally renowned park and open space system, and to encouraging community greening from urban reforestation projects to community vegetable gardens; and

Whereas, Minneapolis has worked to “green” City fleets, purchasing, buildings, and operations generally; and

Whereas, the Minnesota Office of Environmental Assistance has awarded Minneapolis a \$66,000 grant to develop a sustainability plan for the City;

Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved by the City Council of the City of Minneapolis:

That Minneapolis intends to build on the City’s already strong base of environmental policy and practice, and to launch a focused campaign to describe and then shape a more sustainable future for the City through the development of the “Minneapolis Sustainability Plan.” This future will include stronger social connections and

neighborhoods, greater social wealth and equity, local self-reliance, and more transparent accountability among residents and civic leaders. The “Minneapolis Sustainability Plan” will embrace and enhance ongoing environmental initiatives and help coordinate the City’s planning, policymaking, and budget processes into a more coherent whole. The Plan will help the City integrate the “Three Es,” Environment, Economy, and Equity (including social justice); coordinate efforts; garner buy-in; and increase the effectiveness of our ongoing programs and investments.

Be It Further Resolved that Minneapolis intends – with the help of the CEAC and many other citizen, business, and environmental organizations – to rely upon the involvement of diverse stakeholders and listen to their concerns before we draft the plan.

Be It Further Resolved that Minneapolis will complete the following:

- After developing the “Minneapolis Sustainability Plan,” incorporate it into the text of the *Minneapolis Plan* as appropriate, and add the text of the “Minneapolis Sustainability Plan” as a separate chapter. Minneapolis will likely be the first city in the country to elevate its sustainability plan to the level of a comprehensive plan.
- Develop a program to track key sustainability indicators and disclose them in the “State of the City” report.
- Establish ten-year sustainability targets, integrate them into the “Minneapolis Sustainability Plan,” and measure progress towards these targets.
- Establish sustainability initiatives (i.e. specific projects) designed to accomplish the sustainability targets.
- Amend ordinances such as the Zoning Code and the Minneapolis Code of Ordinances as appropriate to be consistent with the “Minneapolis Sustainability Plan.”

Be It Further Resolved that Minneapolis intends to use the *Minneapolis Plan*, the “Minneapolis Sustainability Plan,” the sustainability indicators, and the ten-year targets to guide all appropriate City decisions including the following:

- Guide the vision for and organization of the new Community Planning and Economic Development Department.
- Inform the City’s annual budget process as shaped by the Strategic Plan.
- Guide the Capital Long-range Improvement Program.
- Inform other applicable plans and policies.

Be It Further Resolved that Minneapolis intends to establish a process to serve in the interim so that City decisions are “filtered” through a sustainability screen. The City will articulate broad City sustainability goals to serve in the interim period, and will charge all decision-makers and City staff with observing these interim sustainability goals.

Be It Further Resolved that the City Council directs the Planning Director and the staff of the Planning Department and all other appropriate City departments to do the following:

- Present to the City Council by the end of March 2003 a program and a description of the resources necessary (both staff and financial) to develop and implement the “Minneapolis Sustainability Plan” as described above. This program shall also include a proposed completion schedule.

- Seek additional non-City resources as needed to develop and implement the “Minneapolis Sustainability Plan.”
- Draft broad City sustainability goals for adoption by the City Council to serve in the interim period until the adoption of the “Minneapolis Sustainability Plan.”